

11. With a view to focus on issues relating to protection and improvement and cleaning of rivers/lakes, a massive programme of environment education and awareness is imperative. Centre and States to launch this campaign through a programme of volunteers called "National Green Volunteers".

(c) An amount of about Rs. 181 crore has been provided in the current annual plan i.e. 2001-02 for the river cleaning schemes.

Tiger Population in the country

4619. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of tiger population in the country as per the last tiger census conducted in 1999 and its comparison with other countries in the world;

(b) whether it is a fact that the tiger population in the country has been dwindling in recent years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken in recent years to check poaching of tigers in the country and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The details of tiger population as per the last tiger census conducted in 1997 is given in Statement-I (see below). A comparison of tiger population of India with that of other tiger range countries is in Statement-II (see below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The efforts made for protection of tiger and other wildlife in the country are:

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including tigers against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure to provide effective protection to wild animals.

- (iii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (iv) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (v) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary (Environment and Forests), Government of India for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
- (vi) A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001 at Coimbatore where important resolutions were adopted and known as 'Coimbatore Charter'. Resolutions forming part of the Coimbatore Charter related to wildlife conservations are:
 - (1) Wild animals do considerable damage to agricultural crops in areas adjoining national parks and sanctuaries, causing considerable concern, thereby requiring formulation of an appropriate insurance scheme for compensating damage to agricultural crops falling within five kilometers of national parks and sanctuaries.
 - (2) Existing provisions for payment of compensation in the cases of deaths due to wild animals were emphasised, with the objective of ensuring compliance by the State/Union Territories Governments.
 - (3) The ban on recruitment of forestry personnel shall be lifted and the vacancies filled up immediately on the lines of Police Department. The field formations shall be reorganised into viable units and be provided with adequate mobility, firearms and effective communications network.
 - (4) An effective mechanism for intelligence gathering and data base of habitual offenders should be developed for preventing wildlife crimes.
 - (5) Adequate expertise shall be developed for prosecuting offenders and training be organised for undertaking investigations.

- (6) Steps shall be taken immediately for designating special courts for wildlife offences.
- (7) Create effective enforcement infrastructure both within protected areas and outside protected areas to prevent poaching.

Statement-I

Population of tigers in the country as reported by the States

Sl.No.	Name of the State	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993	1997
1	Tamil Nadu	33	65	97	95	97	62
2	Maharashtra	160	174	301	417	276	257
3	West Bengal	73	296	352	353	335	361
4	Karnataka	102	156	202	257	305	350
5	Bihar	85	110	138	157	137	103
6	Assam	147	300	376	376	325	458
7	Rajasthan	74	79	96	99	64	58
8	Madhya Pradesh	457	529	786	985	912	927
9	Uttar Pradesh	262	487	698	735	465	475
10	Andhra Pradesh	35	148	164	235	197	171
11	Mizoram	—	65	33	18	28	12
12	Gujarat	8	7	9	9	5	1
13	Goa, Daman & Diu	—	—	—	2	3	6
14	Orissa	142	173	202	243	226	194
15	Kerala	60	134	89	45	57	73
TOTAL:		1638	2732	3543	4026	3432	3508
16	Meghalaya	32	35	125	34	53	—
17	Manipur	1	10	6	31	53	*
18	Tripura	7	6	5	—	—	*
19	Nagaland	80	102	104	104	83	*
20	Arunachal Pradesh	69	139	219	135	180	*
21	Sikkim	—	—	2	4	2	*
22	Haryana	—	—	1	—	—	N.R.
TOTAL:		189	92	462	308	318	

N.R.-Not reported by States.

*-Tiger census was not carried out in North East States in 1997.

[27 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Statement—II

Status of Tiger in the World (*Panthera tigris*)

Sub Species	Range Countries	Estimated Population	
		Minimum	Maximum
Royal Bengal Tiger <i>P.t.tigris</i>	Bangladesh	300	460
	Bhutan	80	240
	China	30	35
	India	2500	3800
	Nepal	150	250
	TOTAL:	3060	4785
<i>P.t.altaica</i> (Also called Amur, Siberian Manchurian, N-E China Tiger)	China	12	20
	North Korea	10	10
	Russia	415	476
	TOTAL:	437	506
<i>P.t.amoyensis</i> (South China Tiger)	China	20	30
	TOTAL:	20	30
<i>P.t.sumatrae</i> (Sumatran Tiger)	Sumatra	400	500
	TOTAL:	400	500
<i>P.t.corbetti</i> (Indo-Chinese Tiger)	Cambodia	100	200
	China	30	40
	Laos		
	Malaysia	600	650
	Myanmar		
	Thailand	250	600
	Vietnam	200	300
	TOTAL:	1180	1790
	GRAND TOTAL:	5000	6800
<i>P.t.virgata</i> (Caspian Tiger)	Extinct	1970's	
<i>P.t.sondaica</i> (Javan Tiger)	Extinct	1980's	
<i>P.t.balica</i> (Bali Tiger)	Extinct	1940's	